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April 9, 1972

TO: Ambassador Bunker

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger HK

The President would appreciate your personal assessment of the situation along the lines of your outstanding assessments sent during Lamson last year. He would like your views on effectiveness of the SVN military forces, the state of their morale and their will to fight over the long-haul if the enemy keeps up the heavy pressure of the last week. He also is interested in your impressions of Thieu's effectiveness in moving to meet the situation and the steps he plans, as well as the political scene there and the mood of the government and the people as they have been or are likely to be affected by the enemy offensive.

The President also asks that General Abrams provide his assessment of how the Vietnamese forces are performing.

Warm regards.

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